

"advocacy,  
capacity building,  
and systemic change"



State Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Area Board 6

## Area Connection Summer 2008

2529 W March Lane, Ste 105 Stockton, CA 95207  
Phone: 209-473-6930 Fax: 209-473-6932  
Email: ab6@scdd.ca.gov Website: www.areaboard6.ca.gov

Area 6 Developmental Disabilities Board

The SCDD/Area Board 6 protects and advocates for the rights of persons with developmental disabilities in Amador, Calaveras, San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Tuolumne counties.

### Board Members

Gary Del Nero, Chair  
Governor Appointee  
Stanislaus County

Governor Appointee  
Brad Putz  
Tuolumne County

Amador County  
Mary Dye  
Anna Newman

Calaveras County  
John Lundberg  
Mollie Rogers

San Joaquin County  
Robert Balderama  
Gwen Caldeira

Stanislaus County  
Traci Trujillo  
(vacancy)

Tuolumne County  
Jill Ames  
Dierdre Wright

### Next Board Meeting

July 22, 2008  
Calaveras County  
Office of Education  
6:00 pm—8:30 pm

**Area Board 6** starts their search for a new **Executive Director.**

Interested parties should visit the **State Council on Developmental Disabilities** website for job announcement, application process and deadline information.

**[www.scdd.ca.gov](http://www.scdd.ca.gov)**



### BUDGET NEWS

For current budget information, please see our website's *Budget News page*

### Stakeholder's Gatherings A BIG HIT!



**SCDD/Area Board VI and Valley Mountain Regional Center sponsored a Stakeholder Series.**

*Continued on page 2*

### The Colonel's Daughter



Kathy Barnes, the Colonel's daughter,  
is her name

Changing the world is her game  
She came to the Area Board 6 in 1991  
Little did she know  
that the fun had begun!

Kathy worked in Modesto, Manteca  
and ended in Stockton  
Big ideas and follow through were  
her passion!

Staying put in one place,  
she really thrived  
The Colonel's daughter  
had finally arrived!

*Continued on page 3*

**Visit [www.areaboard6.ca.gov](http://www.areaboard6.ca.gov) to  
read the official announcement!**



# Advocates Page

## Supported Employment



Work allows people to better integrate into their communities. When we feel good about having a job, we often see ourselves in a more positive way. Work provides structure and routines. Job income gives us more choices about what to buy, where to live, and gives us a chance to build savings. The **California Department of Rehabilitation** administers a program called **Supported Employment** to assist individuals with disabilities find and keep jobs. Supported employment is competitive work within integrated work settings for individuals with disabilities which requires the need for ongoing support services to perform such work. Simply put, supported employment helps a person locate a job, then assists in mastering the various details of the position and finally, provides follow-along services to insure a consistent level of support should the employee's needs change. You may know of some careers that interest you, or you may have a work history. The type of job that you will get through supported employment depends on your abilities and interests. If you are unsure about what specific career you want, your employment specialist can help you with questions and ideas about employment.

*Continued on next column*

Our website has more resources  
for individuals and their families

**[www.areaboard6.ca.gov](http://www.areaboard6.ca.gov)**

Some things to keep in mind:

- Most people change jobs and try different jobs when they first start working- its normal.
- Your job coach will work closely with you when you start your job, then work with you less as you become good at your job.
- The supported employment agency will help you find a job when you are laid off, fired, or quit, but cannot help you find a job when you have a job.

Department of Rehabilitation/ Supported employment services can include a variety of services to help you get and keep a job.

***Supported employment means finding and having a job in the community with help and support from a job coach and a supported employment agency.***

**For more information: Contact your local office of the Department of Rehabilitation or if you receive services from Valley Mountain Regional Center, contact your service coordinator for assistance.**

**Questions about benefits if you work?**

**[www.drail.org](http://www.drail.org)**

**[www.disabilitybenefits101.org](http://www.disabilitybenefits101.org)**

**[www.wallinginc.com](http://www.wallinginc.com)**

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Stakeholders from the five counties came together at the San Joaquin County Office of Education in March to learn and discuss AB2424 (Beall). AB2424 is based on the priorities of people with developmental disabilities, family members, advocates and other stakeholders obtained through extensive community input. Stakeholders met again in May and worked on Focus Areas that were identified at the March gathering. They broke up into four Focus Areas with the outcome of each group being to *"Increase Meaningful Employment & Smoother Transition"*. They developed a plan to achieve their goals. All outcomes will be posted on our website in the near future.



## The Colonel's Daughter

CPS II, LQA Coordinator  
and Executive Director  
became her roles

She had finesse, style, integrity  
and achieved her goals!

The People First Movement  
& CHOICES was her focus and belief  
The Self Advocacy Council VI was born...  
to her relief!

The Colonel's daughter  
had learned from her father  
To work hard, determined and never falter  
She became a leader with values and spirit  
All who have met her understood her  
merit!

Area Board 6 merged with SCDD  
A bridge builder- Kathy would be!  
Her talent and skill carried her well  
And so it has led to this farewell!

The Colonel's daughter was appointed  
Deputy Director  
of Area Board Operations  
And this poem is to honor her  
and relay our congratulations!  
Although she will be missed  
around Area Board 6  
We are certain that her new role  
will bring her kicks!

So from those who know Kathy best  
We give our love and respect  
We'll miss her kindness  
and water cooler fodder  
And never forget the  
Colonel's Daughter!

*Written by: Dena Hernandez  
From: Neil Fromm, George Lewis  
& Marigene Tacan-Regan  
Area Board 6 Staff  
April 2008*

## Finding Family

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When Bryan Morrison was growing up in different foster homes and group homes, he always wondered about his mother. Bryan's grandmother and aunt kept in contact with Bryan over the years. When he was about to turn 18 years of age he started asking his grandmother and aunt questions about his biological mother. His grandmother had received letters from Bryan's mother. Bryan's grandmother wanted to let Bryan make the choice of when he should read the letters and get in contact with his mother on his own. Bryan says he is happy his grandmother waited to tell him about the letters. Bryan says he went through a lot of pain from not knowing his mother. He decided to reunite with his mother and he's receiving counseling. Bryan says, "I want her to know I'm her son and have a relationship with her". Bryan says the best thing he could have done was contact his mother. Bryan said, "We talk on the phone all the time now and we are bonding". "My mother even paid for me to come and visit her in Portland Oregon".

### The ArcLink FindFamilyRegistry

**Online database will match families with their  
missing family member with a disability**

There is an opportunity for family members to reunite. To enter information in the FindFamily Registry, go to [www.FindFamilyRegistry.org](http://www.FindFamilyRegistry.org).



# *The Area VI Self Advocacy Info Sheet*

SUMMER 2008

## **Area VI Self Advocates Attend the People First of California Statewide Convention!!!!**



SAC VI Chairperson Tim Cabral and his wife Cheryl with PFCA Executive Director, Joe Meadours



Very professional banner...



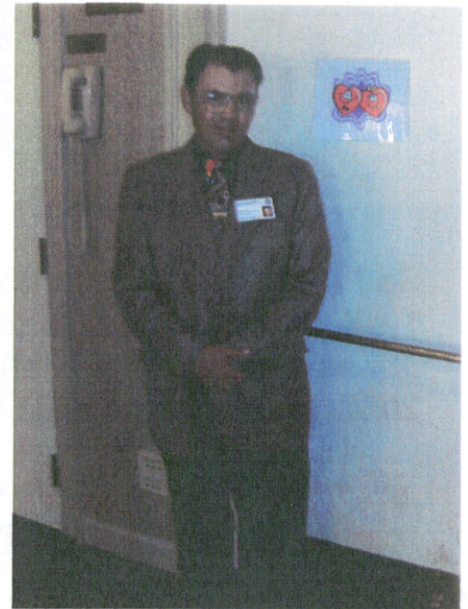
The Advocates performed Friday Night!  
They did a GREAT job! Everyone was dancing!



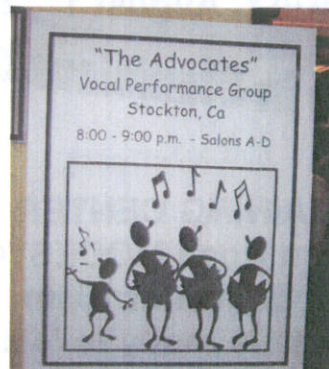
Area Board 6 Member, Jill Ames gets folks signed up for the Dating Game!



SAC VI Open Doors Services People First representative, Chuck Miller works as an usher for the Dating Game!



SAC VI Member and DDS CAS Member, Bruce Thomas works as an usher for the Dating Game!



The Advocates Announcement



Jessie Lopez from Person Centered Services asks the 3 bachelorettes questions before choosing his date for the dance & free dessert.

**Krisi Franzone, People First of California, Region 6 Representative on stage to hand out raffle prizes! Krisi worked on the convention planning team and Represented our area well!!!! It was a FUN time!!!!**





**CHOICES Institute  
Announced the T-shirt Contest Results!!!  
And the WINNER WAS.....**



**Winner- Steven Mattos**

Self Advocacy Council VI chairperson Tim Cabral announced the CHOICES 2008 T-shirt winner and Honorable Mentions (Brenda Cruz, Annette Gonzalez, Greg Jones and David Medel) at the Area 6 Self Advocacy Annual Meeting in February 2008. It was a PACKED house and a FUN day!!!! Congratulations to the artists!!!!

**Join Us at the Next Area Meeting for Self Advocates of Area 6!!**



**FRIDAY, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008**

**1st Time in Stanislaus County!!**

**HOWARD TRAINING CENTER –Witmer Hall  
1424 Stonum Road MODESTO-538-6406**

**Begins at 10am**

**Bring your lunch and come ready to learn about self advocacy  
And meet the members of the Self Advocacy Council VI !**

**We will meet back at Quail Lakes Baptist Church in Stockton on Friday, November 7th, 2008**

**QUESTIONS??? CALL SAC VI at 955-3624**

